

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

In its use of the public airwaves, Sinclair is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Yet we are getting what's good for the bottom line, not what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, we should see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Sinclair stations use public airwaves free of charge, and are required by law to serve the public interest. One-sided programs like "Stolen Honor" do not, and are harmful to our democracy. Please do not allow Sinclair to air "Stolen Honor," or if you do, please be sure to air a pro-Kerry program like "Going Upriver" shortly after.

Thank you.